

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1677
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL OPORTO
USMISSION NATO
COMUSFORAZ
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT
DIA WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 165

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PO
SUBJ: LAJES BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. LISBON 8167 (DTG 241308Z NOV 76)
B. PONTA DELGADA 094 (DTG 241235Z MAR 77)

1. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION, REGIONAL SECRETARY REIS LEITE, WHO HEADS THE AZOREAN TEAM TO PRELIMINARY GOP DISCUSSIONS ON THE LAJES NEGOTIATIONS, SAID THAT THE FIRST MEETING WITH THE GOP HAD NOT GONE WELL. AT THE SECOND, HOWEVER, THE GOP AGREED THAT THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF REQUESTS DRAWN UP IN NOVEMBER (REFTEL A) WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATING PACKAGE. REIS LEITE EXPLAINED THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD SETTLE FOR LESS THAN THE ENTIRE LIST, BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE WAY THE TALKS HAD GONE AND EXPECTED TO BE CALLED TO LISBON IN THE NEAR FUTURE FOR THE FINAL DISCUSSIONS BEFORE THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USG. HE HAD NO DEFINITE
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INFORMATION AS TO WHEN THAT MIGHT BE.

2. THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING RAISING IN THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS THE QUESTION OF THE SUPPLY OF FUEL BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE AT LAJES TO MOBIL OIL (REF B), BUT HAS NOT MADE A FINAL DECISION YET.

3. COMMENT: THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT'S AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 1978-1980 WHICH CALLS FOR INVESTMENTS OF OVER ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR (OVER 14 MILLION CONTOS FOR THE THREE YEAR PERIOD) IS FRANK IN STATING THAT THIS AMOUNT OF MONEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY BY USING THE PROCEEDS OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS. THE PLAN, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SPECIFY WHICH PROJECTS THE REGION HOPES TO FINANCE THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS OR HOW MUCH MONEY IT HOPES TO RECEIVE FROM THEM.

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Message Attributes

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